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22 July 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 17 July 1957

PRESENT: Mr. Herter, Mr. Dearborn, Mr. Dulles, Mr. Larson, Mr. Hollister, Mr. Sprague, Mr. Cutler, Admiral Strauss, Mr. Staats

1. U.S. Personnel Stationed in Foreign Countries

The Board discussed generally the matter of U.S. personnel in overseas areas and agreed that the report submitted to the Council on this subject was precisely a proper one and that, by requiring regular reporting of personnel strengths abroad and through them identifying potential trouble spots, is the best way of avoiding problems or meeting them as they arise.

2. Soviet Invitation to Ambassador Thompson to Appear on TV

The Board agreed that it is desirable for Ambassador Thompson to accept the invitation to speak on a Russian telecast. Mr. Herter pointed out, however, that the invitation is not considered a firm one since there has been no follow-through as yet by the Soviets. In further discussion the Board agreed on the desirability of a rebroadcast in the U.S. but there is some question as to whether or not this would be possible on TV. USIA will look further into the technical aspects of rebroadcasting.

3. People-to-People Program

The discussion on this item centered on the danger which exists that a program of this type might get out of hand. As an example Mr. Herter referred to the antics of a Mr. Max Bortman who appeared in Athens representing himself as an envoy of the People-to-People Program and as such insisted on an audience with the Queen of Greece. Mr. Larson also emphasized the need for exercising control over such a program so that the great number of people and committees involved in the program and the divergent ideas they may generate would not have a counter effect on the U.S. Government programs in this field. Discussion of this item was carried over into the Board meeting where Mr. Larson's offer to make a full presentation on the People-to-People Program to the Board was accepted. This presentation will be scheduled at an early Board meeting.

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ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

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